

COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

For Immediate Release: June 23, 2014

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LINDEN HOME REPAIR PROGRAM: Councilmember Michelle Mills, chair of the Development Committee, is sponsoring ordinance 1535-2014 to fund the Linden Home Repair Program, which will provide financial assistance for home improvements to eligible homeowners in the Linden area. Columbus City Council created the program with a \$1,000,000 capital budget amendment sponsored by Councilmember Mills. Click here for a map that shows the geographic boundaries of the program. Council will also vote on similar home repair programs in Driving Park and the Hilltop.

SUPPORTING ARTS AND CULTURE: Councilmember Hearcel F. Craig, chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee, is sponsoring three ordinances to support three great Columbus cultural attractions. Ordinance 1363-2014 will allow the City of Columbus to provide \$2,250,000 for the Columbus Museum of Art's multi-year expansion and renovation project. The funds will support work on Washington Plaza, the new public entryway on the north and east side of the museum's new wing, and the Sculpture Garden, which will add 17,000 square feet of green space to the museum's campus, with areas for sitting, dining, and hosting special events. Ordinance 1352-2014 provides \$1,100,000 to support the renovation of the COSI facility and grounds, including ADA improvements, carpet replacements, kitchen improvements, sound system and lighting upgrades, new signage, and planetarium project construction. The third ordinance, 1362-2014, supports the implementation of the Franklin Park Master Plan. The first phase of the plan included three major projects: the Palm House additions, the Community Garden Campus, and the Production Greenhouse. This year most of the city's funding will support architectural and design work on the Davis Center renovation. The renovated center will provide arts programming and event space to the community.

NEW MEDICS: The Columbus Division of Fire provides quality emergency care to residents and visitors in need. Ordinance 1321-2014, sponsored by Public Safety and Judiciary Committee chair Zach M. Klein, allows the Division of Fire to purchase six new medium duty medics from Horton Emergency Vehicles. The Division of Fire has used the Grove City-based Horton as the primary supplier of medics for more than a decade. The \$1,455,752.82 purchase also enables the City to standardize units, which decreases the number of parts carried on inventory and enables the fire division to train emergency services personnel on a standard unit.

HELPING SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES: Health & Human Services Committee chair Priscilla R. Tyson is sponsoring ordinance 1320-2014 to allow the City of Columbus to provide grant assistance to two social service organizations. Jewish Family Services would receive \$6,000 to support the Let's Talk Respect Initiative, a community-based program to engage girls between the grades of 6-12 on the topics of safe dating, bullying, cyber abuse, self-esteem and empowerment through SAFE DATES Curriculum. The program will be offered in select city schools and neighborhood centers to empower and inspire teen girls through prevention education and provide them with helpful tools and resources. The Human Services Chamber of Franklin County will receive \$125,000 to support its operations. The chamber serves as a voice for social service agencies and helps its members advocate for clients, participate in the development of public policy, and collaborate for more effective service delivery.

HILLTOP BEAN DINNER: <u>Eileen Y. Paley</u>, chair of the Administration Committee, is sponsoring resolution 0102X-2014 to declare June 28, 2014, "Bean Dinner Day" in Columbus. The resolution recognizes the work of the Hilltop Business Association, organizers of the annual <u>Hilltop Bean Dinner</u>, an event that draws thousands of people to Westgate Park for a fun-filled day of family activities.

CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION: The <u>Columbus Charter Review Commission</u> will hold its next meeting on Thursday, June 26, at 1pm in City Council Chambers, on the second floor of City Hall. A public hearing will follow at 5pm; speaker slips will be accepted at the hearing. All meetings of the Charter Review Commission are open to the public and are recorded for broadcast on CTV, Columbus' government channel on local cable systems.